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2 May 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Office of General Counsel

SUBJECT : Legality of Administrative Restriction on Overtime Compensation

1. Approximately three years ago the Chief of the SR Division's Domestic Operations Base issued to his personnel and to the Administrative Office of SR a written directive limiting the amount of overtime to twenty-six hours per week for which paid compensation could be claimed by any individual. This action appeared justified on the theory that many of the hours personnel put in at the work locations were not actually spent in working, although the presence of such personnel there was required. They were at liberty during much of the time to read, watch television, or entertain themselves as they wished. The time spent in such standby status was considerably more than twenty-six hours some weeks. This policy has been in force ever since for the many people who have been with the Domestic Operations Base.

2. One employee has objected to this administrative limitation on paid overtime compensation and has submitted a claim for compensation for all overtime hours in excess of twenty-six per week. He intends to resign from the Agency on 4 May.

3. Your opinion as to the legality of his claim will be appreciated, and in view of his pending resignation it is requested that we have a reply as soon as possible.

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*for [unclear]*



SR Personnel Officer

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